

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00524 281538Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03  
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01 OPR-02  
SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 ACDA-07 OMB-01 MCT-01 /097 W  
-----281715Z 088936 /45

P R 281438Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2495  
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 0524

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGW: PINS, SEDU, ET  
SUBJ: UNIVERSITY STUDENTS BEGIN BOYCOTT OF CLASSES

REF: ADDIS ABABA 0089

SUMMARY: MON., JAN 24, ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY (AAU) STUDENTS  
BEGAN "CREEPING" BOYCOTT OF CLASSES, WHICH NOW APPEARS TO HAVE  
ACHIEVED MEASURE OF SUCCESS. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS  
REPORTEDLY INITIATED BOYCOTT ON PRETEXT OF DEMANDING RESIGNA-  
TION OR FIRING OF S&T FACULTY MEMBER. LIBERAL ARTS STUDENTS  
JOINED BOYCOTT IN SYMPATHY WITH S&T STUDENTS, ADDING DEMAND  
SUPPORTING AAU LABORERS. THERE SOME EVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENTS ALSO JOINING BOYCOTT TODAY TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH  
AAU STUDENTS. IT APPEARS ADDITIONAL DEMANDS FOR STUDENT PARTICI-  
PATION IN AAU ADMINISTRATION AND FOR CHANGE OF UNIVERSITY GRADING  
SYSTEM SUBMITTED AFTER BOYCOTT GAINED MOMENTUM. ALTHOUGH DE-  
MANDS CAREFULLY AVOID POLITICAL CONFRONTATION WITH  
PMAC, RELIABLE SOURCES CLAIMS THIS SAFEST TECHNIQUE FOR STUDENTS  
TO PROTEST AGAINST PMAC. END SUMMARY

1. MORNING JAN 25 ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS REPORTEDLY BEGAN BOYCOTT OF CLASSES.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 00524 281538Z

FIRST DAY WAS ONLY PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL EFFORT. FOLLOWING  
DAY HOWEVER SAW ALMOST COMPLETE ABSENCE OF S&T STUDENTS  
FROM CLASSROOM AND SIMILAR ACTION AT NEARBY AAU LIBERAL ARTS  
CAMPUS. INITIAL STUDENT DEMANDS SEEMED TO CENTER ON S&T  
STUDENTS' REQUEST TO HAVE ONE OF ITS FACULTY MEMBERS RESIGN  
OR BE FIRED AND LIBERAL ARTS STUDENTS' SUPPORT FOR GRIEVANCES  
OF AAU LABORERS. IT RUMORED AAU LABORERS NOT ALLOWED BY EPMG

TO FORM UNION OR PARTICIPATE IN ADMINISTRATION OF UNIVERSITY  
AS PREVIOUSLY DEMANDED IN DEC.

2. ON JAN 26, SIZEABLE NUMBER OF STUDENTS RETURNED TO  
CLASS, WHILE AWAITING DECISION ON THEIR DEMANDS. COINCI-  
DENTALLY, DURING CURFEW HOURS OF SAME NIGHT MASSIVE QUANTITY  
OF EPRP HANDOUTS AND BANNERS APPEARED THROUGHOUT CITY. FOLLOWING  
DAY, BOYCOTT BECAME OFFICIAL, AS NONE OF STUDENT DEMANDS WERE  
GRANTED. DEMANDS WHICH WERE ADDED DURING WEEK SUBSEQUENT TO  
INITIAL CLASS BOYCOTT INCLUDED GREATER STUDENT PARTICIPATION  
IN UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION AND REVISION "IMPOSSIBLE" GRADING  
SYSTEM. RELIABLE SOURCE ACKNOWLEDGES DEMANDS WERE CHOSEN AND  
WRITTEN IN MANNER, WHICH WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO  
BE MET BY EPMG.

3. WEEK-LONG STUDENT ACTIVITY APPEARS TO HAVE CULMINATED  
IN STRONG EPMG REACTION AND THERE REPORTS TODAY OF PRESENCE OF  
MACHINE GUN JEEPS AND TROOPS ON AAU CAMPUS, SOME SHOOTING  
IN NEAR VICINITY, AND CLOSE SURVEILLANCE OF HIGH SCHOOL STU-  
DENTS WHO APPEAR TO BE JOINING AAU BOYCOTT.

4. COMMENT: WEEK-LONG ACTIVITIES HAVE APPEARANCE OF BEING  
WELL-ORCHESTRATED AND LEND SOME CREDENCE TO CONTENTIONS OF  
STRONG EPRP SUPPORT AMONG STUDENTS. COINCIDENCE OF REAPPEARANCE  
OF EPRP LITERATURE THROUGHOUT CITY DURING PAST WEEK AND WELL-  
PLANNED BOYCOTT OF CLASSES SUBSTANTIATES DEC RUMORS  
DEMONSTRATIONS WOULD OCCUR AT UNIVERSITY DURING JAN. NON-  
POLITICAL DEMANDS SEEM CAREFULLY CHOSEN TO AVOID INDISCRIMINATE  
SHOOTINGS BY EPMG TROOPS AS IN PAST. ALSO BOYCOTT TECHNIQUE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03     ADDIS 00524 281538Z

OBVIATES NEED FOR WIDESPREAD PUBLIC MANIFESTATIONS TO DEMON-  
STRATE STUDENT UNITY AND DISCONTENT WITH DIRG. IMPACT OF  
STUDENT BOYCOTT AGAINST BACKGROUND OF RECENT EPMG MILITARY  
REVERSES IN NORTH DIFFICULT TO ASSESS AT PRESENT, BECAUSE IT  
NOT YET KNOWN DEGREE OF SUPPORT STUDENTS HAVE AMONG ADDIS  
ELEMENTS DISENCHANTED WITH PMAC.

5. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS OF STUDENT BOYCOTT  
CLOSELY AND REPORT.  
TIENKEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOYCOTTS, STUDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ADDIS00524  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770031-0816  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ADDIS ABABA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770110/aaaaaikj.tel  
**Line Count:** 107  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 09a8b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 ADDIS ABABA 89  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3478250  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UNIVERSITY STUDENTS BEGIN BOYCOTT OF CLASSES  
**TAGS:** PINS, SEDU, ET  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/09a8b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009